BOYER ELLEN RM

Form 4

February 02, 2009

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

Expires:

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January 31, 2005

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Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

Stock

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Ad BOYER ELI	Symbol	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol STERLING FINANCIAL CORP				5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer				
		/WA/ [S		n ven il	COI	· ·	(Che	eck all applicable	e)	
(Last)	(First) (M		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)			_X_ Director Officer (given	ve title Oth	6 Owner er (specify		
111 N. WAL		01/30/2009				below)	below)			
			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)			
SPOKANE,		·				_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person				
(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned										
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securi	ties		5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of	
Security	` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` ` `		on Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or				Securities Form: Direct Indirect			
(Instr. 3) any		<u>*</u>			of (D	1	Beneficially (D) or		Beneficial	
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3,	4 and	5)	Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership	
							Following Reported	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)	
					(A)		Transaction(s)			
			Code V	Amount	or (D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)			
Common Stock	01/30/2009		A(1)	1,000	A	\$0	5,000	D		

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)		ate	7. Title a Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 a	of ng s	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(Instr. 3, 4, and 5) (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	or Title Nu of	umber		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
• 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
BOYER ELLEN RM 111 N. WALL STREET SPOKANE, WA 99201	X						

Signatures

/s/ Daniel G. Byrne, Chief Financial 02/02/2009 Officer

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Restricted stock award grant pursuant to Sterling's 2007 Long-Term Incentive Plan. Grant vests over 4 year period (25% each year).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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